

## CLAIMS

1. A method for reducing power consumption of a subscriber station,  
2 comprising:
  - determining a number of frames that must be received correctly; and
  - 4 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said determining a number of frames that must be received correctly comprises:
  - determining an amount of redundancy; and
  - 4 determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.
3. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:
  - 4 providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received frames.
4. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:
  - determining an encoding rate of received frames; and
  - 4 determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.
5. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy comprises:
  - 4 determining a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.
6. The method as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

2 increasing said determined minimum number of frames that must be  
received correctly by a first number.

7. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding  
2 rate of received frames comprises:  
determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the  
4 received frames.

8. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding  
2 rate of received frames comprises:  
providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the  
4 received frames.

9. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said terminating reception of  
2 the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly  
comprises:  
4 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of  
frames was received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is  
6 obligated to receive the frames expired.

10. A method for performing hard handoff on a common broadcast channel  
2 comprising:  
receiving at a subscriber station frames transmitted on the common  
4 broadcast channel from a first sector;  
determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;  
6 identifying at the subscriber station at least one sector belonging to a soft  
handoff group different from a soft handoff group including the first sector;  
8 determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be  
received correctly;  
10 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of  
frames were received correctly; and  
12 beginning reception of frames from the identified at least one sector.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining a number of  
2 frames that must be received correctly comprises:

3 determining an amount of redundancy; and

4 determine number of frames that must be received correctly in  
accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amount  
2 of redundancy comprises:

3 providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received  
4 frames.

13. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amount  
2 of redundancy comprises:

3 determining an encoding rate of received frames; and

4 determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding  
rate.

14. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining number of  
2 frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined  
amount of redundancy comprises:

4 determining a minimum number of frames that must be received  
correctly.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

2 increasing said determining minimum number of frames that must be  
received correctly by a first number.

16. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an  
2 encoding rate of received frames comprises:

3 determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the  
4 received frames.

17. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an  
2 encoding rate of received frames comprises:

providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the  
4 received frames.

18. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said terminating reception of  
2 the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly  
comprises:

4 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of  
frames were received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is  
6 obligated to receive the frames expired.

19. The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

2 determining whether at least some decoded packets received from the at  
least one sector are identical to at least some decoded packets received from  
4 the first sector; and

6 discarding the identical packets.

20. A method for a handoff from an area covered by an origination system  
2 into an area covered by a destination system comprising:

4 receiving at a subscriber station service on a channel from a sector in the  
origination system;

6 determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;

8 identifying at the subscriber station a destination system;

determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be  
8 received correctly;

10 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of  
frames were received correctly;

12 tuning to a frequency of the destination system; and

receiving service on a channel from at least one sector if the at least one  
sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

21. The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:

2 determining a time to restart receiving at a subscriber station service on  
the channel from the sector in the origination system.

22. The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:  
2       storing signals received at the frequency of the destination system;  
4       retuning to the origination frequency;  
4       at the subscriber station concurrently:  
6           receiving service on the channel from the sector in the origination  
6       system; and  
8           analyzing the stored signals to identify a sector in a destination  
8       system that can provide service;  
if no sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber  
10      station.

23. The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein said retuning to the  
2       origination frequency comprises:  
4           retuning to the origination frequency before the time to restart receiving  
4       service on a channel from a sector in the origination system

24. The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:  
2       performing hard handoff if the sector in a destination system is identified.

25. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,  
2       comprising:  
4           replacing part of a content of a parity portion of a transmitting buffer with  
4       a signaling information; and  
6           transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on  
6       the common broadcast channel.

26. The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:  
2       increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel  
during the determined time.

27. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,  
2       comprising:

encoding a content of a systematic portion of a transmitting buffer with a  
4 first code to provide parity bits into a first part of a parity portion of the  
transmitting buffer;  
6 adding signaling information into a second part of the parity portion of the  
transmitting buffer, the second part being different from the first part;  
8 transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on  
the common broadcast channel.

28. The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

2 encoding a content in the systematic portion of the transmitting buffer  
with a second code to provide parity bits into the parity portion of the  
4 transmitting buffer; and  
6 transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at other than the  
determined time on the common broadcast channel.

29. The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising:

2 increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel  
during the determined time.

30. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,  
2 comprising:

4 providing frames received on the common broadcast channel to a  
receiving buffer;  
6 decoding the receiving buffer with a first code if the frames were received  
in error during a determined time; and  
8 decoding the receiving buffer with a second code if the frames were  
received in error otherwise.

31. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,  
2 comprising:

4 encoding a packet containing channel content information with a first  
code;  
6 encoding a packet containing channel content information and signaling  
information with a second code; and

transmitting said encoded packets.

32. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,  
2 comprising:  
4        decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis; and  
6        decoding received packet in accordance with a second rate hypothesis if  
said decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis was  
unsuccessful.